

5. Description of a new Species of *Mus* from Sind. By  
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 Museum. (Communicated by Mr. W. T. Blanford.)

[Received August 26, 1885.]

(Plate LI.)

MUS GLEADOWI, sp. nov.

General colour above fulvous-brown, the hairs being dusky for about three fourths their length, then yellowish or fulvescent, and tipped with dark brown. No pure black hairs on the back. Entire under surface, sides of the belly, feet, chin, and throat, all round the snout, and the sides of the face white, except a dark brown streak under the eye. A rufescent circle round the eye. Tail ringed, slightly longer than the head and body, and covered with short hairs, dark brown dorsally, and white on the sides and below. Ears dusky all round the edge for about one half of their length, and covered



Hind foot of *Mus gleadowi*, enlarged  $1\frac{1}{2}$ .

inside and out with short white hairs; laid forward they reach the front edge of the eye. Lower series of whiskers entirely white; upper series black at the base, and tipped more or less broadly with white.

*Length*.—Head and body of a pregnant female 3·25 inches, tail 3·37; of an adult male, head and body 3·25 inches, tail 3·1.

Mammæ three pairs, two inguinal, one pectoral. Foot-pads five on each fore foot, four on each hind foot.

This species lives in burrows, at the foot of salt-wort bushes in the Clifton Plain, Kurrachee. It is quite nocturnal, leaving its burrows about 7 P.M., and running all over the plain.

*Note by* W. T. BLANFORD.—The description above printed has been sent to me by Mr. Murray, together with two adults, one of each sex, and one young individual of *Mus gleadowi* in spirit. In both of the adults I find that the tail is now slightly shorter than the head and body; and I observe that although in the male the coloration of the head is as described above, in the female the sides of the head, including a narrow band above each eye, are pale fulvous, and there is no distinct dark brown streak below the eye. The following are the dimensions in spirit, measured as are those of

Indian Rats and Mice given by Mr. Oldfield Thomas, P. Z. S. 1881, p. 525 :—

	♂. inches.	♀. inches.
Head and body . . . . .	3·4	3·5
Tail from anus . . . . .	2·9	3
Hind foot . . . . .	0·72	0·7
Fore arm and hand . . . . .	0·88	0·87
Ear-conch, length (outside) . . . .	0·58	0·63
Muzzle to auditory meatus . . . . .	—	1

Both skulls are much broken ; that of the male has been extracted, and measures an inch in length from the occiput to the anterior termination of the premaxillaries, 0·15 across the frontals where narrowest between the orbits ; the length of the row of upper molars is 0·2, of the lower molars 0·17. The skull closely approaches in form to that of *Mus mettada*, except that it is more convex above. The dentition of the two species appears to me quite similar except in size.

*Mus gleadowi* is indeed in many respects a miniature of *Mus mettada*. It has the same form of hind foot, with the hinder foot-pads wanting, though the deficiency appears carried further in the new species, judging by the specimens sent, in which only four pads are present, than it usually is in *M. mettada*, in which five is the usual number, though but four are often found. The small number of pads on the hind feet distinguish these two forms from all other Indian species of *Mus*, which have six, all well developed.

From *M. mettada* the present species is distinguished by its much smaller size, and especially by its very small feet and tarsi—the latter being much longer in proportion to their diameter than in *M. mettada*—by the colour being very much lighter, sandy brown with a slight greyish tinge above, and pure white below, and by having only six mammæ instead of eight. The eyes, too, appear proportionally much larger in *M. gleadowi*.

6. On the Specific Characters and Structure of certain New-Zealand Earthworms. By FRANK E. BEDDARD, M.A., F.R.S.E., F.Z.S., Prosector to the Society.

[Received October 1, 1885.]

(Plates LII. & LIII.)

I have lately received through the kindness of Prof. T. J. Parker, of Otago University, Dunedin, New Zealand, a number of excellently preserved Earthworms collected in the neighbourhood of that town. The specimens proved to belong to three distinct species, all apparently referable to Perrier's genus *Acanthodrilus*. I have been able to study